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FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

LS 6424

BILL NUMBER: HB 1291

NOTE PREPARED: Nov 26, 2002

BILL AMENDED:

SUBJECT: "In God We Trust" motto in public schools.

FIRST AUTHOR: Rep. Kruse

FIRST SPONSOR:

BILL STATUS: As Introduced

FUNDS AFFECTED: **GENERAL
DEDICATED
FEDERAL**

IMPACT: No Fiscal Impact

Summary of Legislation: This bill requires a school corporation to display the motto of the United States worded "In God We Trust".

Effective Date: July 1, 2003.

Explanation of State Expenditures:

Explanation of State Revenues:

Explanation of Local Expenditures: This bill requires school corporations to display the motto of the United States. The display must include the phrase: "In God We Trust, the National Motto of the United States of America, adopted by Congress, July 30, 1956." Under the bill, school corporations would not be allowed to use any public funds, but may accept donations and non-public funds to cover the costs of an 11" X 14" poster displaying the motto (plus frame) for every instructional classroom.

Background: There are currently 293 school districts in Indiana with approximately 1,900 public schools.

An approximation of the number of public school classrooms in Indiana was estimated by utilizing full time equivalency (FTE) data for teachers. However, this estimate may overstate the total number of classrooms, as some classrooms may have more than one teacher. There were 59,559 FTE teachers in school year 2001-2002.

Additional information obtained indicated a per unit cost of approximately \$3-\$6 for an 11" X 14" poster

displaying the motto, depending on the number of posters ordered.

Mississippi Initiative: House Bill 51 was signed into law during the 2001 session of the Legislature. The bill provided that all schools in Mississippi would be required to display the motto of the United States. The American Family Association indicated that a professional printing firm printed the required copies of the motto of the United States for the 32,000 classrooms, auditoriums, and student dining areas in Mississippi schools free of cost to the schools.

Wichita, Kansas: By the end of 2002, all schools in Wichita, Kansas, will display at least one 11" X 14" motto of the United States poster. Funding for these posters will be provided by a local non-profit group.

Explanation of Local Revenues:

State Agencies Affected:

Local Agencies Affected: School corporations.

Information Sources: Indiana Department of Education, IDOE SAS and ORACLE data tables; www.state.ms.us; American Family Association; *The Wichita Eagle*, April 30, 2002; www.usatoday.com/news/nation/2002/02/20/usat-posters.htm.

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